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QUENCHING OF EMISSION AND OF PHOTOCHEMISTRY FOR AQUEOUS  $\text{RH}(\text{NH}_3)\text{--ETC}(\text{U})$   
APR 79 A W ADAMSON, R FUKUDA, M LARSON N00014-76-C-0548

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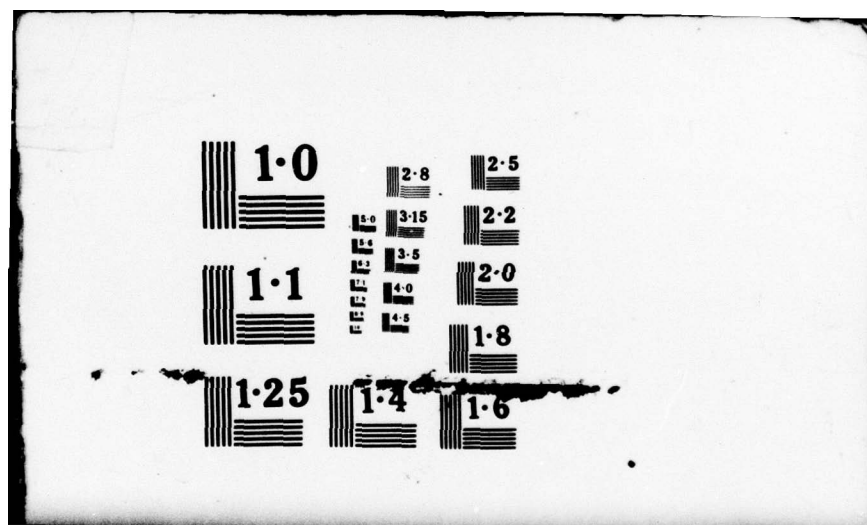
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20. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number)

Aqueous  $\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$  shows emission and excited state absorption, ESA, decaying with the same lifetime. The temperature dependence of emission and of ESA, attributed to the first triplet t<sub>exi</sub> state, corresponds to an apparent activation energy of  $5.4 \pm 0.3$  kcal mole<sup>-1</sup>. The emission is quenched by OH<sup>-</sup>, CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>, and CN<sup>-</sup>, the respective bimolecular quenching rate constants for the first being  $2.1 \times 10^{10}$  M<sup>-1</sup> sec<sup>-1</sup> and  $8.3 \times 10^9$  M<sup>-1</sup> sec<sup>-1</sup> at 4°C. The photochemistry, predominantly chloride aquation, is also quenched. In the case of OH<sup>-</sup>, results indicate that 85-90% of the photoreaction is quenched on complete emission

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20. Abstract (continued from previous page)

quenching. In the case of  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ , quenching is accompanied by some prompt anation. Less basic ions, acetate, formate, oxalate, and the species present in pH 9.2 borate solution, do not quench the emission. The quenching mechanism for  $\text{OH}^-$ ,  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ , and  $\text{CN}^-$  is suggested to be one of proton transfer, the counter base so produced being substitution labile and able to undergo some anation during the quenching encounter.

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TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 8

Quenching of Emission and of Photochemistry  
for Aqueous  $\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$

by

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## Quenching of Emission and of Photochemistry for Aqueous $\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$

Sir:

Both ordinary and sensitized photochemistry have been reported for various  $\text{Rh}(\text{III})$  ammine complexes, from several laboratories.<sup>1,2</sup> The reactivity has been attributed to the lowest triplet thexi state,  $T_1^\circ$ .<sup>1a</sup> Low temperature emission, also assigned to  $T_1^\circ$ , has been known for some time,<sup>3</sup> but has only recently been observed in room temperature, aqueous solution for  $\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{X}^{n+}$ , for  $\text{X} = \text{NH}_3, \text{ND}_3, \text{Cl}, \text{Br}$ ,<sup>4</sup> and for  $\text{X} = \text{Cl}, \text{Br}$ , and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .<sup>5,6</sup> In the case of  $\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$ , the room temperature emission spectrum shows a maximum at 640 nm,<sup>5</sup> and generally resembles the low temperature spectrum.<sup>7</sup> There is also a transient absorption, with a maximum at 500 nm,  $\epsilon_{\text{max}} > 100 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and assigned to  $T_1^\circ$  since the decay time is the same as that of emission.<sup>5</sup>

The ability to observe emission and excited state absorption (ESA) under photochemical conditions should provide leverage for excited state studies, much as has been possible for  $\text{Cr}(\text{III})$  complexes.<sup>2,8</sup> We have been examining the possibility, and report here some results for aqueous  $\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$ . Figure 1 shows the temperature dependence of the (presumed)  $T_1^\circ$  lifetime,  $\tau^\circ$ , as obtained from emission and ESA.<sup>9</sup> The two sets of data lie on the same Arrhenius plot, of slope corresponding to  $5.4 \pm 0.3 \text{ kcal mole}^{-1}$  apparent activation energy. The interpolated  $\tau^\circ$  value for 25°C, 14.8 nsec, agrees well with the reported value of 14.2 nsec;<sup>4</sup> our value at 4°C, of importance below, is  $30.1 \pm 0.7 \text{ nsec}$ .

We find that the emission is quenched by  $\text{OH}^-$  and by  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  ions (that the behavior is the same for ESA was checked in the case of  $\text{OH}^-$ ), and the Stern-Volmer type plots for 4°C are shown in Figure 2. Carbonate ion has

not previously been reported as a quencher for an excited state of a coordination compound.<sup>12</sup> The slopes of the two Stern-Volmer plots yield bimolecular quenching rate constants,  $k_q$ , of  $2.1 \times 10^{10}$  and  $8.3 \times 10^9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$  for  $\text{OH}^-$  and  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ , respectively. These  $k_q$  values correspond to about the diffusion encounter rates expected for the two quenchers. That the quenching is due to  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  rather than to  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ , is indicated by the agreement of the dark circle point of Figure 2, for  $[\text{CO}_3^{2-}] = 7.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$ ,  $[\text{HCO}_3^-] = 9.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$ , with the adjacent open circle point, for  $[\text{CO}_3^{2-}] = [\text{HCO}_3^-] = 8.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$ .

An important aspect that may now be tested is the degree to which emission quenching leads to reduction in photochemical quantum yield. The 25°C yields for chloride and for ammonia photoaquation are reported to be 0.16 and  $< 10^{-3}$ , respectively.<sup>1a</sup> Our procedure, in testing for  $\text{OH}^-$  quenching, was to carry out paired irradiations, one in pH 2 perchloric acid solution, and one at the desired  $\text{OH}^-$  concentration, and to compare the spectrophotometrically determined degrees of photolysis.<sup>13</sup> Three results for  $\phi^\circ/\phi$ , the ratio of quantum yield for acid vs. alkaline solution, are shown in Figure 2, the estimated error in each being about  $\pm 10\%$ .<sup>13</sup> A fourth result, for 0.013 M  $\text{OH}^-$ , gave  $\phi^\circ/\phi = 4.4$ . Photolysis quenching was also observed qualitatively, in the case of  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  solutions, but with indication of complexity in that some prompt formation of  $\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5(\text{CO}_3)^+$  occurred.

It has been suggested, from deuteration effects on emission lifetime and photochemical quantum yield, that the photoaquation and emission are competitive.<sup>4</sup> Our results tend to confirm this conclusion in that emission quenching is indeed accompanied by quenching of photochemistry. Our  $\phi^\circ/\phi$  values lie below the emission quenching line, however, and, in the cases of the two higher  $\text{OH}^-$  concentrations, to an extent well exceeding experimental uncertainty. (The point at 0.013 M  $\text{OH}^-$ , not shown in Figure 2,  $\phi^\circ/\phi = 4.4$ , is to be compared with the value of 9.3 predicted by extrapolation of the



$\tau^\circ/\tau$  plot.) The data are fit, however, by the dashed line in the figure, calculated for 13% unquenchable photoreaction. This could be due either to reaction from an excited state not populated via  $T_1^\circ$ , or to some anation during a quenching encounter.

Results of tests for other quenchers are that we detect no emission quenching by acetate, formate, or oxalate ions, or by the species present in 0.05 f borate at pH 9.2. Cyanide ion is a weak quencher, with 25% lifetime quenching in 0.05 f cyanide at pH 9.3. The three quenching species,  $\text{OH}^-$ ,  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ , and  $\text{CN}^-$ , have the common property of being good proton acceptors; it may be that there is a common quenching mechanism of proton transfer from  $T_1^\circ$  to base,  $\text{B}^-$ , during a quenching encounter. The immediate product,  $[\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_4(\text{NH}_2)\text{Cl}\cdot\text{HB}]^+$ , should be substitution labile, and might in part convert to  $\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{B}^{n+}$ . Such behavior would account for our results with  $\text{OH}^-$  and for the component of prompt anation in the case of  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ .

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- (9)  $[\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}]\text{Cl}_2$  was obtained from Alpha Inorganics;  $[\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5(\text{H}_2\text{O})](\text{ClO}_3)_3$  and  $[\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5(\text{CO}_3)](\text{ClO}_4)$  were prepared according to literature protocols,<sup>10,11</sup> The pulsed Nd glass laser and associated equipment used is essentially that described previously;<sup>8</sup> exciting pulses were at 353 nm and of 5 nsec and 20 nsec half-width in the cases of the emission and ESA measurements, respectively. Emission intensities were followed at 670 nm, and ESA's were monitored at 485 nm.
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- (12) As a cautionary note,  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  may easily be present as adventitious impurity in basic solutions; its quenching ability was discovered as a result of investigating the source of irreproducibilities in preliminary

experiments. In subsequent ones, care was taken to use A.R. or "super pure" grade sodium hydroxide, which was water washed and immediately made up to a stock solution. Dilutions were made with care to minimize absorption of atmospheric  $\text{CO}_2$ , and irradiations, in sealed cells. Hydroxide ion concentration was calculated from the measured pH at  $25^\circ\text{C}$ . The carbonate solutions were equiformal in  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ , and had a pH of 10.08.

- (13) It was first verified that no different photochemistry occurred in the alkaline solutions. The solution was acidified after photolysis, and the spectrum found to correspond to that for a stage in the acid photolysis. Also, since the absorption spectra for  $\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5(\text{H}_2\text{O})^{3+}$ , and  $\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5(\text{OH})^{2+}$  are known,<sup>14,15</sup> independent (and agreeing) determinations of the course of photolysis in either acid or alkaline solution could be made by suitable plotting (see Ref. 16) of optical density changes at various wavelengths. Photolyses of the 0.003 M  $\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$  were 10% to 20% reaction and some pH decrease of the  $\text{OH}^-$  solutions occurred; the points in Figure 2 are for the average  $\text{OH}^-$  concentration during the photolysis.
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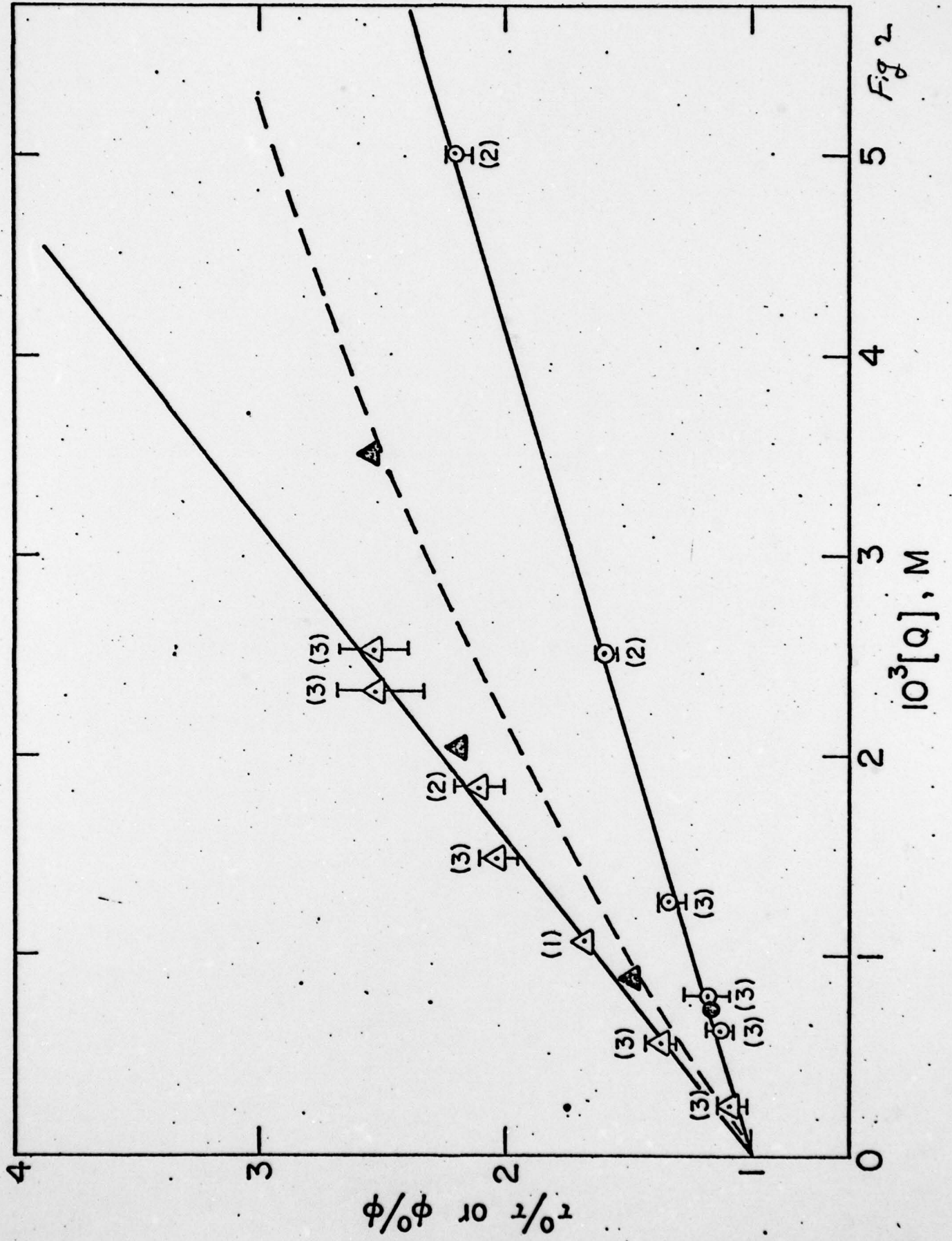
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Figure 1. Temperature dependence of emission and ESA lifetimes for aqueous  $\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$ .  $\circ$  Emission;  $\Delta$  ESA;  $\bullet$  datum from Ref. 4. Numbers in parentheses give the number of separate experiments.

Figure 2. Stern-Volmer plot of  $\text{OH}^-$  and  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  quenching of aqueous  $\text{Rh}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$  at  $4^\circ\text{C}$ .  $\Delta$   $\text{OH}^-$  quenching of emission.  $\blacktriangle$   $\text{OH}^-$  quenching of photolysis.  $\circ$   $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  quenching of emission.  $\bullet$  Test of effect of  $[\text{HCO}_3^-]$ , see text. Numbers in parentheses give the number of separate experiments.



Fig 2





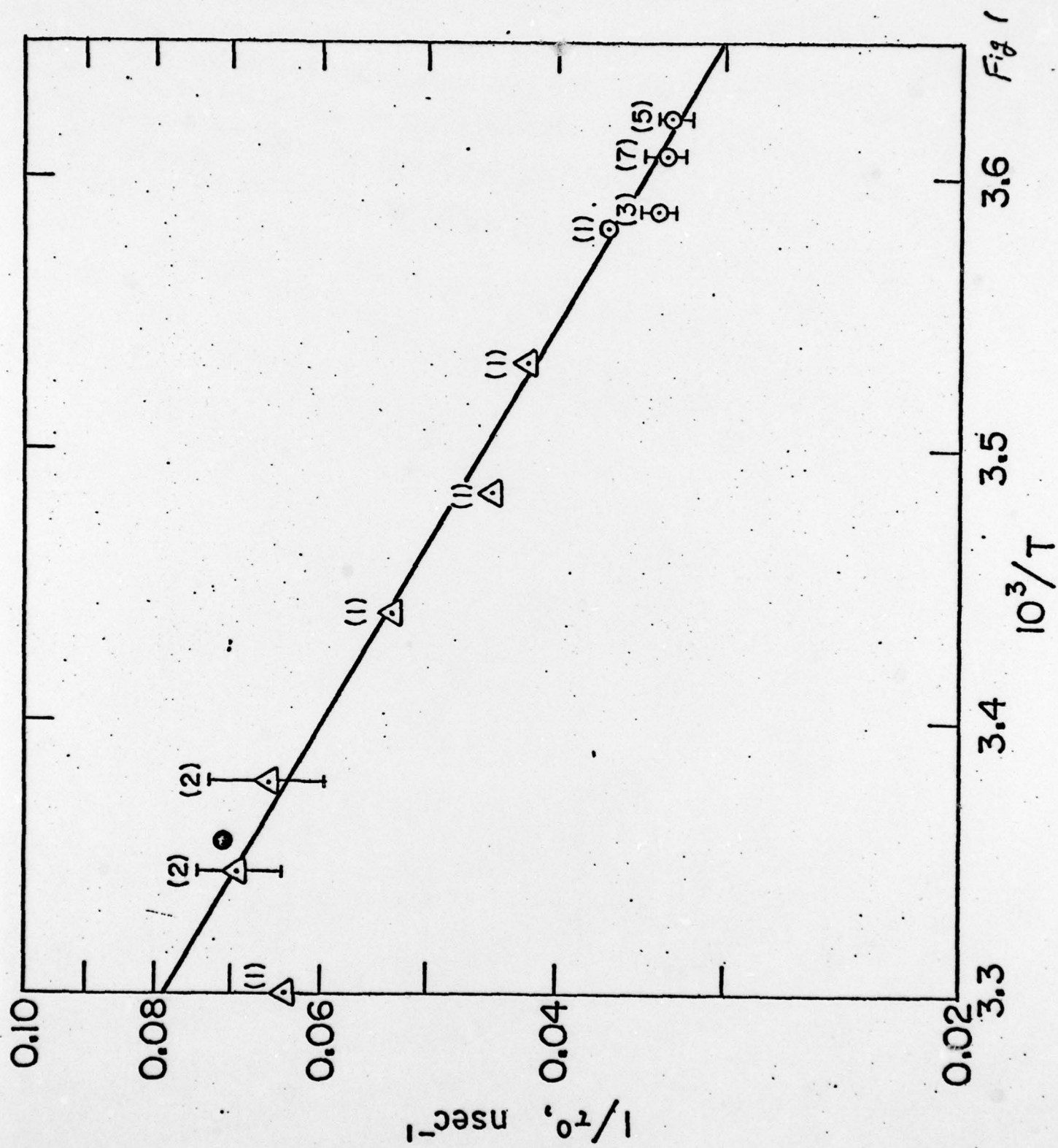


Fig 1

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